

Newport Mercury

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The Newport Mercury

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162 THAMES STREET,
NEWPORT, R. I.

THE NEWPORT MERCURY was established in June, 1798, and is now in its one hundred and thirty-third year. It is the oldest newspaper in the Union, and with less than half a dozen exceptions, the oldest printed in the English language. It is a large weekly, of fifteen columns, filled with interesting reading, editorial, state, local and general news, well selected advertising and valuable farmers' and household departments. Regarding our religious friends, this and other papers are far behind in advertising to you, and your contributions are advertising to us.

Twins, \$100 a year in advance. Single copies, 5 cents. Extra copies can always be obtained at the office of publication and at the various news rooms in the city.

Specimen copies sent free, and special rates given after letters by addressing the publishers.

Local Matters.

Merry Christmas.

Wednesday was not a typical New England Christmas day. The sound of martial music, with the boom of cannon and snap of fire crackers would have been sufficient to convince the community that it was the 4th of July, so warm and summerlike was the weather. But it was the 25th of December, the anniversary of the birth of our Saviour, and as such was observed in accordance with time honored custom. Stockings that had been hung about the chimney place the night before, empty, were found full in the early morning by the excited little ones; the usual family dinners were served; sports that did not require snow or ice were enjoyed, and religious services were held at the several Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches. It was really a day of rejoicing, and only the young, to whom Santa had presented skates or sleds, or the few older persons, to whom a "green Christmas" is always an ill omen, would have cared to change its general appearance.

Many entertainments, private and public, incident to the day, have been given and others are yet to come. The Sunday school of Channing Memorial church had its usual Christmas festival in Channing parlor Tuesday evening. The rooms were tastefully decorated, and the exercises included the distribution of presents from a Christmas tree. The inmates of the City Asylum, thirty in number, were given an excellent Christmas dinner at noon on Christmas day and at 2:30 special exercises, appropriate to the occasion, were held in the chapel. This room had been prettily decorated with evergreens and provided with a tree well loaded with fruit, candles, popcorn, etc., as presents for the inmates. Chaplain Jerry W. Horton, who is also one of the overseers of the poor, presided. The exercises included music by a choir consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Gales Davis, Mrs. Tabbitts and Mr. Thos. S. Nason, prayer by Rev. J. A. L. Rich, interesting remarks by Mayor Coggeshall, Rev. Mr. Rich, Mr. B. W. Pearce, Alderman Cotterell and Councilman Hammatt and Myers, and Mr. Lawton Coggeshall entertained the audience with a couple of sailor songs. The distribution of the presents was the closing feature of the entertainment.

At the naval training station on Coasters' Harbor Island, such apprentices as had not obtained leave of absence for the holidays spent the day in a thoroughly enjoyable manner. After a series of interesting athletic sports, which occupied most of the morning, an excellent Christmas dinner was served, and much of the afternoon was given up to foot-ball and other exercises.

The in-town sports included an interesting foot-ball match on the Gilbert and Stanton lot between the Gymnasium eleven and a picked team. There was a large audience of spectators and the play was sufficiently close to keep up the interest notwithstanding the fact that the score at the finish stood 18 to 0 in favor of the Gymnasiums.

Unique Christmas entertainments were given at the Second Baptist and First Presbyterian churches Thursday evening, the former, in addition to interesting literary exercises by the Sunday school, included a banquet in honor of Santa Claus, and the latter a Santa Claus' house of most attractive dimensions. Each provided presents for the younger members of the schools.

The Sunday schools of the First Methodist Episcopal, Trinity and St. John's church, held their Christmas festivals last evening. Trinity's being in Masonic Hall. Each was largely attended and greatly enjoyed.

The Sunday school of Emmanuel church will have a Christmas tree Monday evening next, and that of the Thanes street M. E. church will give a Christmas concert next Tuesday evening, New Year's eve.

An exceedingly interesting paper, "The Honey Bee" was read before the Natural History Society Monday evening by Mr. J. D. Davis.

Mr. J. D. Davis of this city has been elected a member of the executive committee of the American Forestry Association.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The Hospital Again.

An Accident to the Puritan.

Real Estate Sales.

A Chronology of Some Memorable Occurrences.

CITY BRIEFS.

Arrivals of Newport and Newporters.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy King are in New York.

Mr. Herbert L. Dyer, has been in New York this week.

Mrs. G. C. Langley has gone to New York for the winter.

For numerous secret societies this city must bear on the palm.

Mr. T. H. Lawton spent Christmas with his sons in Providence.

Mr. T. T. Pitman, of the Daily News, spent Christmas with friends in Washington.

The travel by the Old Colony steamer is unusually heavy for this season of the year.

Mrs. A. H. Sayles, of Pawtucket, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Fish on Federal avenue.

"La Grippe" late of Russia, is the newest and most popular guest of many Newport families just now.

Mr. A. C. Thompson and family of Westerly, have been visiting Newport friends this week.

The officers of Bellevue Lodge, Order of Tonti, elected Tuesday evening, will be installed Jan. 14.

The members of Washington Commandery had a social at Masonic Temple Thursday night.

The prospects are good for considerable movement in real estate between now and next summer.

Late liquor seizures by our police indicate that kitchen barrooms can be run on very small capital.

Dr. Henry Coggeshall, of New York, spent Christmas with his father, Mayor Coggeshall, in this city.

The Jolly Boys gave a matinee in Old Fellow's Hall Wednesday, and it was a very enjoyable affair.

Mr. Marion Smith, son of Col. Howland Smith, is at Tacoma and will probably locate there permanently.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Barker, of Boston, spent Christmas with Mr. Barker's father on Sherman street.

Mrs. Phoebe A. Bradford has been in Stamford, Conn., this week; the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Wardwell.

Mr. Frank G. Rice, boss planer at the Cottrell Press works in Westerly, but formerly of this city, is seriously ill.

A Merry Christmas social was greatly enjoyed by about twenty-five couples at Masonic Hall Wednesday evening.

Mr. Geo. T. Finch and nephew, Mr. Benjamin Finch, 2d, of New York, spent Christmas with Newport friends.

An elegant vestment set was among the numerous Christmas remembrances received by Rev. Dr. Grace of St. Mary's.

Mr. G. B. Reynolds, who has been confined to his home on Broadway during the past two weeks by a severe cold, is convalescent.

Street Commissioner and Mrs. W. H. Lawton, Jr., nee Bear, took their Christmas dinner with Mrs. Lawton's parents in Brooklyn.

Mr. Edward K. Stevens, of Philadelphia, enjoyed a Newport Christmas this year, the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Stevens.

Mrs. Thayer, wife of Rev. Thatcher Thayer, D. D., who has been quite seriously ill for some time past, is reported considerably improved.

W. E. Tripp is building on Second street, for S. W. M. Battress, a handsome and commodious one-and-a-half-story cottage 27x17 feet.

Mr. O. Hoffman Burrows, of Washington, has rented his Newport villa on Gilford's avenue, to Mrs. John Deere, of New York, for next season.

Mr. Robert H. Stanton, who had been in poor health for several years, died at his residence on Washington square last Saturday, aged 72 years.

The next meeting of the Literary Society of the Congregational church will be held Friday evening, Jan. 17th, the meeting due for Jan. 3d being omitted.

The "Destruction of Pompeii," will be the subject of Rev. Dr. Randolph's discourse before the Aquidneck Union of Chautauqua Circles on the 20th proximo.

Mr. Edward J. Burlingham, of St. Mark's College, is spending his Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burlingham, on Spring street.

NEWPORT, R. I., DECEMBER 28, 1889.

WHOLE NUMBER 6,841.

Last week allied in these columns to depict that a young lady, deaf Sunday night that delayed her arrival in New York several hours. The patient was allowed to escape from the steamer left Fall River about 8:30, and at Watch Hill the pin in the crosshead of the streets Newport for some time at night without any thing except her was broken. It was decided to put immediately after Dr. Rankin and Boyd came out in the great columns of the Daily News with long articles of all the editor of this paper. Dr. Rankin in his article very carefully avoiding allusion to the escape from the capital, and Dr. Ercoyd, which she started on her trip to New York.

Major Livermore's Reports.

The secretary of war Wednesday sent to Congress three reports from Major Livermore, United States engineer. One recommends the dredging of the cove on Coasters' Harbor Island, at Newport, where the training ship Van D. Reed, for \$25,000, a lot of land, with buildings bounded easterly, 120 feet, on Belgrave avenue, southwesterly, 120 feet, on land of John R. Ford; westwesterly, 120 feet, on Coggeshall avenue, and northwesterly, 183 feet, on land of George Warren Smith.

Harriet B. Armstrong and William A. Armstrong have sold to John E. Harrington, for \$1 and other considerations, a lot of land bounded easterly, 50 feet, on Prescott Hall road; southerly, 100 feet, on land of John M. Rodriguez; westerly, 50 feet, and northerly, 100 feet, on other lands of the grantor.

John T. Anthony and wife have sold to Godfrey Motif, for \$1 and other considerations, a lot of land bounded southerly, 30 feet, on land formerly of Christopher Amy, and westerly on land formerly of the castle of Adelio, taken by the bush and a great number of the English were slain.

Mr. Lawrence Day the Irish were put to flight by the English, although the English had 10,000 men killed.

In the province of Zealand, a large portion of seven dioceses and fourteen villages, were buried beneath the waters.

The most disastrous of floods which ever visited Germany occurred this year. On the 8th of December, the German Ocean by a tidal wave swept over North Friesia and swallowed up more than 100,000 men, women and children, together with all their buildings.

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In London 60,000 people died of the plague.

The jubilee which was appointed by Pope Boniface in the year 1300, to be kept at Rome every 100 years, was by Clement VI. reduced to every fifty years.

The impression of seamen was commenced.

When King Edward III. was on his march to Clavers, a piercing storm of wind, rain and hail, killed 6000 of his horses, and 1000 of his best troops.

A great mortality prevailed in England and Ireland among the men, but few women died.

There was frost from September to April, 1371.

A great pestilence prevailed in Ireland.

The Papal See was again restored to Rome.

Edward III. died June 21st, 1377, having reigned 51 years. Richard II. succeeded him, being only eleven years old when he came to the throne. He was murdered at Pontefret castle, Feb. 13th, 1400.

Plays were first performed in England.

Rajazet I., the great Turk, succeeded to the office of Sultan, by strangling his brother and rival, Jacob. In 1402, he was defeated by Timour, and was himself taken prisoner. He died in the camp of Timour in 1403.

Gangrene was invented.

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Poetry.

A Legend of a Library.

By ANNE L. ELLIOT.

The owl and the alligator looked round.
From either side of them to speak
It was all that was left for them to do.
With a long, slow stretchings,
Said the owl to the alligator, "I
Would tell the truth, if you would suggest."
As we're both of us tired,
Screams rather than voices of what came first
That wails of pain, or groans of what came last
With a faint, faint sound of lamentation,
With groans without further ado
With general confusion."

"By the owl and the alligator said, "Included
I find the project attractive,
Though my life, I'm afraid, has been, so far,
Less thoughtful, less active.
But I've off-adjourned my book of prose
And thought, a good deal, of the mystic
And the unknown, and who now reduced
To a matter of statistics.

If you don't run in the attentive mind
Of a beast of prey, entombed
I beg you to gain, and the benefit
Of your present portion."

Said the owl to the alligator, "Your reply
Is a triumph of good breeding,
And perhaps, included, a good bird—
I am, I must say, fond of learning."

For before I was born I learned and thought—
I have passed whole days in thinking,
And since I was still, still I think and think,
Though I've had to give up thinking."

The alligator said to the owl, "If I
May do without interruption,
Let me ask of what you last concluded."

Said the owl to the alligator, "There, my friend,
You touch the heart of the matter!
We're two philosophers in the latter,
And our first thought is to start a gaze

That seems to include creation;
For what we want is not reason of Truth,
But instantly Information.
I give you my word, I am a thoughtful bird,

To keep you from knowing,

One needs to be a soundly shaken ahead

And look unceasingly knowing."

The young alligator answered the owl,
And said, "I am much enlightened,
I have looked at those books about the room
I began to dreadfully frightened;

But it all that is needed is a swallow's whole
Your words are easy to follow,
I have never seen, and not swallow,"

"A thing that I could not swallow."

Said the owl to the alligator, pleased to see
An apter, so courageous, so bold—

"And this is why I found on the whole
That starting is advantageous."

One needs not to study, or work, or read,
Or rather what?" said the owl with a stare,
I have studied with knowledge,
And if my manner and look have inspired

Your genuine admiration,
It's all in the studious, my youthful friend,
For studies is education,

Santa Claus, All the year round.

The College Student.

He was a college student, quite chirpy like and
"student." The law, medicine, Osteology and
knew all about his business.
He was eleven years of age, had exhausted
his geography, and was familiar with the
race from the Equator to the Zones.

He could not, and he could not wrestle, he made
one with others, just for a great race.

He was in class full of Poly, including a "Team
of Six," he could play Football or Tennis,
and coached the College eight.

He had studied Evolution, and had practiced
Electrition, but the Annex girl next door
could talk him out of it.

He studied at Boston, and was a protestant
in Astoria—which had studied at the
Parcels through the bottom of a glass.

He was a disaster at Philosophy, enthused only
in the art of love, and many pleasant hours
among the "birds" he tarried.

He always played good Fuchs, and would

laugh in all the faire—but he couldn't build

a fire for wife when he was married.

Cambridge, Cambridge.

Selected Tale.

THE MOUNTAIN SHANTY.

"You're sum to carry the valise to
the depot, Joe, and have it checked—or, no, no, wait until I come; I wish—" and
Walter Dugill turned from the footman to his mother—"I wish the time had
come when machines would take the place of servants. One advantage in a
machine is that you know its capacity; it doesn't make pretensions of being a
rational human being and then fail at the critical moment."

Mrs. Dugill, a fair, delicate woman,
who was drawn close to the fire, with a
velvet mantle wrapped about her,
shook her head gently, and when the
man was gone, said:

"Walter, indeed you have too little
consideration for your inferiors. There
is no need to mortify the man in that
manner."

"Please your heart, mother, you know
nothing about that kind of people. Joe
did not understand, and if he had he
would not have cared. I pay him high
wages, and there is not a day he does
not have an odd half dollar or fall, here
or there, of my hoots or clothes. That's
all he needs for happiness."

"Joe's feelings at the bottom are the
same as ours, my son."

"I beg your pardon," flushing hotly,
"but that I cannot believe. The lower
classes; black and white, have been
handicapped by generations of need and
hard work. Now your tastes and emu-

tions have come to you through many
lives of ease and culture; they lost them

if they ever had any in the fight for
daily bread. The music of noble
thoughts that would stir your soul, as
its depths, would fall off from Joe as a
drop of water from an alligator's back!"

Walter had fallen into a sort of
ornate twine which he had brought
with him from Europe. He was abso-
lutely sure of his opinion, as the boys
and girls mostly are, and liked to set
them forth fully in plenty of words.

"You are too vain of your birth, my
dear," said his mother, quietly. "You
will feel differently when you are older."

"Mother, is it possible that you mean
to say that the material character of a
man's life does not depend largely upon
his birth? Why, look up here to the
faces of my ancestors; they have borne
a high, honorable part in the history of

civilization, politics, art and literature.
I begin every day feeling that their eyes
are upon me. I am glad and proud,

picking up a pen and flourishing it over
a blank book, "that the name I write is
the name they bore; that it is their very
blood which flows in my veins."

Walter had to remember beyond two names
less slaves, who were his father and
mother."

"All very true, Walter. Yet God
made of one blood all the people of the
earth, and some of these days you will
recognize your kinsmen, I think. It is
nearly time for the train isn't it, dear?"

"It's quite time." Glancing at his
watch, he drew on his furred overcoat,
and unconsciously passed his fingers
over the waxed ends of his very small
moustache. "Good bye, mother darling,
I'll write from Harrisburg. I do hope
I may manage the business right and
satisfy father."

"No fear of that, Walter."

She held him for a moment, as he
stepped to kiss her, with her hands
holding each side of his face, and
then, at his delicate features, and
clear, intelligent eyes.

"My God send you safely home, my
son. You'll try and be back by Christ-
mas. There is a ball at your cousin's,
and you're all of my holiday, remem-
ber."

"Oh, I'll be back. I'll not fail in that

whatever comes." And then, with an
other hasty kiss, he was gone, springing
down the stairs and trudging out

some college cat."

Nature had given him a clear tenor
voice, of which he was not little proud.
Indeed, he thought sometimes (just
enough) that nature had given him his
best material, and that it would be his
own fault if he turned out a failure, in
stead of one of the foremost class of
men.

He had just left college and had been
taken into his father's counting room
as confidential clerk. This was his first
journey on the business of the firm, and
he had shrewd suspicion that it was
to test his capacity. He was quite sure
from the fact that Sanders, the old
cashier, met him at the depot, and placed
in his hand the sealed paper of
instructions, instead of sending it by a
messenger.

"Don't you neglect any trifles, Mr.
Walter," said the old man, significantly.
"Your father requires absolute pre-
cision in the least detail, and he'll re-
quire it more in the girl whom he
wishes to be his partner."

Walter nodded and buttoned up the
package in his breast pocket, and in a
few moments he was whizzing away
over the snow-covered fields.

The business for a week or two was
easy and pleasant enough. Money was
to be collected and remitted by draft.
The hotels at Harrisburg and Johnson-
town were comfortable. Walter had
plenty of money, and there R about
him like a young lion. He was a gen-
erous, frank, genial fellow with his
equals, and the Dugills of Philadel-
phia," he wrote to his mother. "Find
the entire to the best society every-
where."

His last work was the settlement of
a sum claim in the mountain counties,
which he could go home. These people
with whom he had to deal had not
heard of the Dugills, but they were
well-bred and highly educated, and
Walter found friends on every side. It
was himself, he thought, not his asces-
tora, which gained him friends here.
Gentlemen themselves, they knew a
gentleman by instinct. He was con-
vinced in his theory that the educated
classes form a sort of Freemasonry
everywhere of mutual brotherhood. As
for ignorant hours, as Walter was fond
of calling them, they were not in a gen-
eral limbo of vice and want and greed.

"What I can do for your favorite
son I will, mother," he wrote, loyally.
"Find the more I see of them the less
like the habits of either their souls or
halves."

Now Walter was not strong, and the
change from his hot-hed to the bitter
cold of the mountain range, began to
tell on him. When the last paper was
signed, and he stepped into the cars, he
would be at home.

"Barely in time for Jennie's ball,"
thought he.

When he reached Atlanta, then only
a wayside station, it was late in the
afternoon. As he went into the waiting
room, a telegram was handed to him.

"If possible go to Wright's furnace
and take directions from Sutton as to
railroad."

"Where is Wright's furnace?" he
asked of the station master.

"Black six miles on the branch that
you crossed at noon. The express has
just gone. No other but the freight
train. You had better wait until morn-
ing." Seeing that the boy hesitated,
"There's a storm coming up."

"To go at all was to give up for months.
He says 'if possible,' " The next instant
he blushed with shame. If he waited till
tomorrow he would be late to Christmas
and disappoint his mother.

"I'll go to-night," he said.

"The freight train's not heated, mind,
young man."

"I go."

"Lucky little chap," said the station
master, as Uncle Val, valise in hand sprang
upon the dirty cars as they rumbled
along. He crept into the corner of one
and fell asleep. At eleven o'clock

the conductor shook him.
"Here's your landing place, my lad."

"Eh? How? The furnace?"

"No, the nearest station, Wright's
furnace lies two miles up the road.
You'd better stay aboard the train and
come down from Fluville in the morning.
It's a tough tramp through the old track."

The old track was the line of the
Pennsylvania railroad, around a hill.
The rails had been removed, but the
cross-ties still remained on the aban-
doned road. Walter inspected it, and
a few rods found it very pleasant
walking. He came back after his va-
lentine.

"I'm going to try it," he called over
the cow-pard fence to his hostess, who
was milking.

"The more fool you. You'll be back
in half an hour."

It was in the day of gold pieces. He
put a couple in her hand. "I cannot
pay you for your kindness," he then
said, shaking it cordially.

"All right. We've got to help each
other, you know. But I don't take mon-
ey. I don't keep tavern no more than
the Sutons," giving him back the mon-
ey.

He had on high-collared boots, but
the snow was soon an inch deep in
the ravines, lengthened into six, he wan-
dered so often from the path. He sang,
laughed at every fresh tumble, made
jokes to himself, which seemed imper-
fident in the face of the awful solitude.
But he could not help it. He was only
a boy, and fun and jokes were the only
stimulation for him against danger;

and he could do his devot if it were
only to keep a promise to his mother,
or to prompt in his work as a mer-
chant's clerk. Besides, the Sutons
were a thoroughly good people of their
own class. They would make him welcome
of course.

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a boy, and fun and jokes were the only
stimulation for him against danger;

and he could do his devot if it were
only to keep a promise to his mother,
or to prompt in his work as a mer-
chant's clerk. Besides, the Sutons
were a thoroughly good people of their
own class. They would make him welcome
of course.

He had on high-collared boots, but
the snow was soon an inch deep in
the ravines, lengthened into six, he wan-
dered so often from the path. He sang,
laughed at every fresh tumble, made
jokes to himself, which seemed imper-
fident in the face of the awful solitude.
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The Mercury.

JOHN P. SANSONS, Editor and Proprietor

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, '89.

The Republic of Brazil is now on trial, and from all accounts it is somewhat doubtful if it also stands the trial with fortitude. The United States sentence on Friday did a wise thing in declining for the present to take any action on the question of recognition.

The prohibition law which has been adopted by the North Dakota legislature is regarded as the most stringent measure ever adopted by any State. The bill received the full Republican vote in the House and was approved by the necessary two-thirds vote of the Senate. It will go into effect next May.

The New York Sun says that ex-President Cleveland is planning to change his residence from New York to some other State, thinking that by so doing he will have a better chance politically in the future. Cleveland denies the impeachment. He says he shall stick to New York.

Kent county has got a new jail at East Greenwich. To dedicate it they put in three criminals the other day. The aforesaid three after remaining in close quarters as long as they thought it prudent for their own convenience made a hole through a 20-inch built wall and walked away. So Kent county now has a jail with a hole in it.

The residence of Mrs. Fisk, widow of the celebrated James Fisk, more commonly known as "Jim," was destroyed by fire at North Hatfield, Mass., Wednesday morning. Four barns were also burned, together with a large quantity of tobacco and farming tools. This is the fourth time within twelve years that Mrs. Fisk's residences have been destroyed by incendiary fire.

The Daily News has a deserved good word for Gov. Ladd. No Governor has ever made himself more popular with the people than has the present incumbent, and it will be a difficult matter for his opponents to find a man who can beat him. Lt.-Gov. Littlefield is equally worthy of praise, and he will make a good successor to Gov. Ladd when the latter shall have served a second term.

Speaker Reed has shown more promptness than any officer who has presided over the House of Representatives for many years. Before the holiday recess is taken he has his lists of committees all made out. The committees are made up, too, in such a manner that even his enemies cannot find a chance to condemn them. It is evident that the new speaker means business every time.

The one great bugbear of a Mugwump's existence is Blaine. The papers of that proclivity see "Blaine" in everything. He is ever present in both their sleeping and their waking dreams; when they take their morning drams and when they say their evening prayers (if they ever say any) the image of Blaine comes up before them to disturb them in their quiet and solemn meditations." Just now they think they have discovered a mere's nest of magnificence proportions and they are making the most of it. No Republican paper, and for that matter, no true blue Democratic paper, had heard of the fact, but it has been left to the aforesaid Mugwump to discover and disseminate the awful fact that this terrible Blaine is in training for the next Presidency. One paper of the ilk set the story going a few days since and now every editorial brother of the order is wading in ink to go knee deep predicting the direful disasters that are to follow. There is nothing to be wondered at in the conduct of these papers towards the able Secretary of State, and between now and 1892, the people should prepare themselves for any number of lies and roarbacks of this kind. It is sufficient to say, there is not the slightest foundation, yet apparent, for the statements now being so industriously circulated in regard to Blaine's wants or intentions as far as the next Presidency is concerned.

The new poll tax law seems to puzzle a great many people just now. Some think that they must pay the tax in order to vote next year; others think that if they pay the tax that settles the whole matter, that they have not got to register and that all they have to do is to exhibit their tax receipt to entitle them to vote. Others cannot see how it is if their property is in the name of the wife and they pay a tax on it that they are compelled also to pay the poll tax. Now the whole matter is simple enough. In the first place the payment of the poll tax has nothing whatever to do with voting. Any male citizen over 21 years of age can vote whether he pays the tax or not. But if he has no property to be taxed he must go to the city or town clerk's office and register his name before the last day of December or else he cannot vote next year. If he neglects to register or if he attends to that duty, he will find the tax collector after him just the same. It is obligatory upon every male person over 21 years of age who is not taxed in his own name, and is not excused by reason of having done military duty, to pay this dollar poll tax. If he does not pay it, the collector is authorized to lodge the delinquent in the Providence County jail. Under this law it might cost the state or city fifteen or twenty dollars to collect one, but the tax collector has no alternative in the matter.

In our city the registering in order to vote next year is done down stairs in the city hall, in the city clerk's office, while the tax is collected up stairs in the city treasurer's office. The money taken for poll taxes goes to the public school fund to make good the loss to the school fund of the registry taxes.

The Financial Situation.

The most careless observer must have noticed the gradual displacement of the National Bank note circulation by the Gold and the Silver Certificates issued by the United States Treasury against the deposits of the precious metal. This displacement must and will continue until the last National Bank note shall disappear when, if legislation do not intervene, our circulating medium will consist of the United States legal tender note, the United States coinage and United States certificates against deposit of gold and silver.

When towards the close of the year 1814 Mr. Jefferson suggested the propriety of a gradual issue of two hundred millions of dollars of National government notes, Mr. Gallatin was of the opinion that Mr. Jefferson greatly overestimated the amount of paper currency which could be sustained "at par," and his judgment was that "the issue of government paper ought to be kept in reserve for extraordinary circumstances." Mr. Gallatin, though the moving spirit of the administrations of Jefferson and Madison, was bitterly opposed to the refusal to recharter the old United States bank. The condition of the United States, with its large product of gold and silver to-day widely different from what it was in 1814, and, indeed, until the discovery of our own mineral resources "specie was a foreign product," and only held in the country by the control which the Bank exercised over the foreign exchanges by the contraction of imports through its discounts.

Commenting on this changed condition of the country, I said in a chapter of the Life of Albert Gallatin written for the Statesmen series in 1883:

"But here it may be remarked that the evolution of the systems of American finance has been such as to entirely supersede the idea of banking specie currency and the day is not far distant when the circulating medium of the United States will consist of gold and silver and of government issues, restricted, according to the English principle, the amount of circulation to the sum of the coin in the treasury; the banks, their creditors from any tax, will be confined to their legitimate business of receiving deposits and making loans and discounts."

As above stated, this process is gradually going on and it has been and is without any friction or disturbance. The authority sought by the Banks to continue their circulation up to the par value of the United States bonds held by the Controller of the Currency for their security may retard but not long retard its ultimate surrender. For, as the time of the maturity of these United States bonds approaches the premium will gradually decline and it is on its face absurd to suppose that the banks will hold back their bonds while outside holders realize the high premium thus holding back of the bank in fact in a measure creates. Mr. John Jay Knox in his recent paper on this subject says that he "does not believe that the National Bank notes are all to be retired." Their retirement may be retarded but cannot be arrested unless a new basis be provided.

Mr. St. John, on the other hand, takes this view. He holds that "it is fairly to be assumed that the last of these National Bank notes will shortly disappear," and he brings to the support of his opinion a passage from the legal tender decision of the United States Supreme Court of 1881, viz.: "We are reasonably assured that no bank note, successor of the present issues of the National Banks, will ever in all the future be allowed to issue and circulate as money in the United States." This judicial statement will of itself prove a sufficient bar to the establishment of any such "successor."

As the United States legal tender note, "the greenback," will then shortly be the only paper money in the United States, since certificates of deposit of money are but substitutes for money and circulate only at the will and for the convenience of the holder it only remains to be considered what amount can be sustained at par. This was Mr. Gallatin's test of safe issue. Here then the student of finance finds no fixed quantity. The issues of the Bank of England were originally based on the lowest amount of notes which had been found to circulate in a number of years. The limit of the United States issue was arbitrarily fixed. Once extended and later brought back to that limit, three hundred and fifty millions, it stands to-day at that amount and Congress has never shown any disposition to increase it. The demand for an increase of paper money which the withdrawal of the National Bank notes might have occasioned is happily avoided by the increase in the amount of certificates of deposit against the abundant product of our gold and silver mines; an increase which has proved adequate not only to fill the gap caused in the circulating medium by that withdrawal, but also to supply the increased circulation demanded by our increasing population and extending trade.

The President has done the country a great service in a lucid statement of this matter, which everyone will read, whereas the Treasury Report is by the body of the people usually held to be a technical document. President Harrison in his message points out that while the National Bank note circulation has fallen off since 1878 to the amount of \$114,109,729, the United States certificates of deposit had increased, of gold \$72,311,240; of silver \$210,817,157; a total increase of \$348,930,964. And the total circulating medium National bank notes, United States notes, United States certificates of deposit, and United States coin, gold and silver, in circulation, showed a net increase from 1878 to 1889 of \$392,224,165, an increase per capita of about \$5 in that period.

As the species, or the evidences of species, have greatly increased while the dependent bank paper has diminished, the circulating medium has been strengthened in the same ratio. And as this coin strength increases there is no reasonable doubt that the United States note at its present limit of

The Financial Situation.

\$250,000,000 will maintain its perfect parity with coin.

When the United States shall have paid off its last bonded indebtedness it will be time enough to consider whether it shall pay off its *non interest* paying United States notes.

In a letter to the N. Y. Tribune not long since I made the suggestion that the United States note be declared convertible into gold at any sub-Treasury of the United States and be so stamped upon its face. The highest financial authorities have held that a reserve of twenty-five per cent, in specie is ample to secure the convertibility of any circulation. The Treasury reserve exceeds this amount and there can be no doubt would be adequate to any call, certainly in the broad territory of the United States.

The silver problem is of another order.

It is impossible to form any judgment of the amount of token currency our widespread population can carry.

In my judgment that amount will prove much larger than generally supposed.

The colored race are lovers of silver and

will carry and hoard large sums. There is no present evidence of glut in any quarter. It will be time enough to legislate further when such glut appears.

Meanwhile the outcry against our silver coinage as a "debased currency" is absurd.

Every country in Europe has

and is using a token silver currency ("debased," if one choose to use the term,) to hold it within its own borders and to avoid the expense of re-coining.

Let us avoid useless and risky legisla-

tion and "leave well enough alone."

But let us not force silver where it is not wanted; or use the currency to support the silver market. When the measure of the token currency is full silver will find its commercial level. If attempts be then made to put out further amounts the intrinsic metal value of the coin must be raised. This is not a novel or difficult task, but as yet necessary.

There is still another point in the sil-

ver problem which deserves considera-

tion, viz., whether it will not be well to stop or lessen the coining of the sil-

ver dollar pieces. Sooner or later they

all return to the Treasury; not be-

cause of any objection to them as sil-

ver, but because of their inconvenient size.

It is many years since France to-

tally stopped the coining of the five

franc piece, as too bulky for daily

handling. Persons returned from China

and Japan bring word that the Mexican

and Spanish dollars, once the preferred

money piece, is no longer in favor and

that smaller coins are taking their

place. It would be well worth while

for the Treasury Department to test

the feeling of our people by a coinage

of half-dollar pieces. The Southern

States would probably absorb many

millions and perhaps tens of millions

of this coin. The experiment is worth

making. It can do no harm.

JOHN AUSTIN STEVENS.

December 20, 1889.

The Burning of Com. Grinnell's House.

We mentioned briefly last week the loss to Commodore Grinnell, of his fine house at Westport Harbor by fire. This escape near being a tragedy. The escape of the inmates was certainly providential. Mrs. Grinnell and her maid were the only persons in the house, and when the latter awakened, the fire had made such headway that the entire front of the house was in flames. Mrs. Grinnell ran out in her night clothes to the piazza, only to find it enveloped in flames. She then seems to have lost her head temporarily, and when Peter, the French servant, reached the house, he found his mistress standing in her bare feet in the dining-room, with the fire all about her and the door burning under her. He tried to induce her to get out of the window, but she insisted that she must return to her room and get her jewels. Realizing that she was not conscious of her situation, the faithful fellow dragged her out by main force and in a moment after the floor she had been standing on fell into the cellar.

The house was a new one, of Queen Anne style, fitted with all the modern improvements. But it was the remarkable contents which made this home particularly attractive to guests and upon which the owner especially prided himself. The commodore was an enthusiastic collector of curios and his wide experience as a traveler had enabled him to accumulate objects from various parts of the world, the value of

which cannot be estimated. Furthermore, the father of the commodore, Mr. Grinnell, of the firm of Grinnell & Minurn, of New York, had himself been renowned as the projector of the Dr. Kane expedition to the Arctic regions and other like adventurous undertakings and he had bequeathed to his son many of the mementoes and trophies which had naturally come to him through his connection with such enterprises. There were letters, papers and documents from the British government and distinguished officers and passengers of the United States, worth

of themselves a fortune in the estimation of the Grinnell family. All these trophies the commodore had gathered into his house at Westport Harbor.—

There were pictures without number, among them the noted oil painting of the finding of Sir John Franklin, by the artist who illustrated the volumes on the Kane expedition, and a choice library, while the rooms were filled with curiosities from comparatively unknown countries, the result of years of painstaking selection. Not a thing was saved from the ruins.

Commodore Grinnell has had a series of misfortunes follow him of late which are enough to break down a strong man. Not long ago he lost the sight of one of his eyes from an accident and the town of Westport made life a burden to him for several months, during a dispute over taxes. He had hardly recovered from these afflictions when he was notified of the illness of his son, who is attending school in Boston. The latter's condition did not improve, and recently the father was called upon to attend him. While in the performance of this duty, Commodore Grinnell was attacked with pleurisy and acute bronchitis, and is at present a patient at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Mrs. Grinnell is still prostrated from the effects of the fire. Her feet were badly burned.

When the gale was at its height the steel steering quadrant broke in two places and the little cruiser, falling off rapidly, was repeatedly swept by the heavy seas that tumbled over her. The heavy drags rigged overboard at the early approach of the storm had their effect. Except the breaking of the quadrant, the only accident which happened was the loss of a whaleboat. The cruise stopped at Fayal two days. She recovered lost time by running from Fayal to that port, a distance of 950 miles, in three days. The average daily run was 316 miles.

Cal. Brice, Democratic rainbow clasp and candidate for the United States Senate, has purchased the Columbus, Ohio Evening Post, to run as his personal organ. He never chased a more evanescent rainbow than the idea that a paper, known to be a personal, political organ, can command the confidence and respect of the public.

Henry W. Grady Dead.

Henry W. Grady died of pneumonia at Atlanta at 29 minutes of 4 o'clock Monday morning. Mr. Grady contracted the illness in Boston where he made one of the most brilliant speeches of his career before the Merchants' Association. He had a slight cold when he left Atlanta and his wife cautioned him against making too many speeches as he had generally returned from his visits North with an attack of pneumonia, or something of that nature. His friends tried to dissuade the zealous editor from using his voice too much, but with sad ill-success.

Henry Woodfin Grady was born in Athens, Ga., May 24, 1851. He was educated at the university of his state, which he located in the place of his nativity. After attending for a while at the University of Virginia he began newspaper work. He was on a visit to Atlanta when he volunteered to go as the Constitution's correspondent on a projected excursion. His letters were brilliantly written and attracted attention.

For a while he edited a paper in Rome, but in 1871 removed to Atlanta. For a while he assisted in the publication and editing of the Atlanta Herald. His work proved of industrial value to Georgia. With the money made by hard work, Mr. Grady purchased a third interest in the Atlanta Constitution. Mr. Grady possessed the sympathetic and genial temperament of the orator. He was large-hearted and popular, and the circle of his healthful and general influence was ever extending.

The two next numbers of the Century will contain the last chapters of the life of Lincoln. In January there will be given a vivid description of the last days of Lincoln, an account of his assassination and funeral, and of the attack on Seward. Supplementary articles by Confederate and Union officers, on the "Pursuit and Death of John Wilkes Booth" will accompany this instalment. Among the illustrations is a diagram of the box in Ford's Theatre, a facsimile of a playbill found in President Lincoln's box after the assassination, etc.

Weston is to have another daily paper. Editor Frank H. Campbell has associated with him Mr. Geo. G. Chapman and beginning the first of February the journal will be issued six times a week instead of once.

A Marriage.

A telephone is said to be legal, notwithstanding the fact that it is not connected with the telephone system. An order by telephone for G. O. Taylor old Boston or Park Row Whisky can be secured from the best drug and grocery trade everywhere, or from the sole proprietors, CHESTER & CO., Worcester, Mass.

W. H. Grinnell's "Cure" is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and nervous system. Price 25 cents.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Consumption, curing the obstructions of the liver and spleen, stimulating the heart and regulating the bowels. Even if they only cure

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Cataract that can not be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Prop., Toledo, O.

W. H. Grinnell's "Cure" is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and nervous system.

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W. H. Grinnell's "C

Farm and Family

losing its strength.

Many houses would be more enjoyable did they contain less furniture. The contents, like fruit trees, at times need pruning; for furniture is apt to accumulate.

If the ladies desiring to restore color in certain dress goods will put vinegar in the rinsing water when washing blue dress goods, especially fine flannels, they will find it restores them to their original color, even though they may have faded badly from the sun, or from washing with soap.

A clothier states that the proper way to wash a flannel shirt is to soak the garment in hot soap water, never rubbing it, and put it repeatedly through a wringer. The garment should never be wrung with the hands, and never put in cold water.

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Furniture.
A NEW LINE OF
CARPETS

AT
M. Cottell's.

NEW STYLES

Chamber Furniture!

NEW LINE

PAPER HANGINGS.

Furniture of all Descriptions,

Carpets, Oil Cloths and

Mattings.

M. COTTELL,

COTTRELL ROCK,

11-12 Next to the Post Office.

Do You Want

a SOFA, LOUNGE, BAY CHAIR

or any Upholstered Furniture?

—CALL AT—

28 JOHN St.,

and have it made at your price, upon a

guarantee of being perfectly satisfactory.

Furniture Repairing, Pictures Made

Over, Window Shades, Etc., Up, Carpets

Made and Laid, &c., &c.

GEO. NADON.

10-3

CARPETS

OIL CLOTHS,

Wall Papers,

WINDOW SHDES,

CURTAIN POLES,

DRAPERY MATERIALS,

—AND—

FURNITURE COVERINGS

Also a large line of

ENGLISH WOOSTOCK

CARPET

—AND—

RUGS and MATS.

W. C. Cozzens & Co.

138 Thame St.

—A—

Cheap Excursion

That will not cost you a cent.

To look over the stock of

H. J. JONES,

14 & 18 MILL ST.

I have just received a new line of those \$1.50

tables and a lot of new desks. By Rush and

Batten Chairs, and Rockers. A fine line of

Chairs and Cards. Much and other Furniture

Coverings to match.

Prices Way Down For Cash.

Furniture repaired and upholstered and

made to order at short notice.

H. J. JONES,

14 and 18 Mill Street

Must Be Sold!

30 HORSES,

50 Carriages

—AND—

HARNESS of all kinds.

Now is the time to get a team cheap, as

the season is broke and I have no

use for them.

Carriages both new and Second-

Hand.

New Leather-Top Buggy, Box or

Phaeton, only \$85.

Pony Team complete, \$125.

Call and see the goods I mean to sell.

Geo. P. Lawton,

TOURO STREET.

WALL PAPER

BARGAINS.

8 Yds. Strong White Back Paper, 3 to 5c.

5c. Embossed Gilt " " 8 to 10c.

All Widths of Gilt Borders, 2 to 3c. Yd.

Color " " 1c.

Sent on stamp for samples.

Please state what rooms and about what colors and cost you want samples sent. All free.

F. H. CADY.

305 HIGH ST.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

12-14-4w

Clothing.

WM. H. ASHLEY & CO.,

The popular and reliable brothers, again pre-

sent for inspection a stock of

MEN'S, YOUTHS', BOYS'.

—AND—

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING,

—IN THE—

LATEST STYLES

AND AT—

LOWEST PRICES.

20 South Main St., Borden's Block.

Fall River, Mass.

JOHN ALDERSON,

MERCHANT TAILOR,

Franklin Street,

ONE HOUR ABOVE THAMES STREET.

Ladies' Coats, Ulsters and Walking Coats a specialty.

Footwear of every description made to order.

A NEW LINE OF

Seasonable Goods

JUST RECEIVED. 1-23

28 JOHN St.,

and have it made at your price, upon a

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Furniture Repairing, Pictures Made

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Please state what rooms and about what colors and cost you want samples sent. All free.

F. H. CADY.

305 HIGH ST.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

12-14-4w

Baby one Solid Rash

Very painful, blisters, multitudinous. No relief by day or peace by night. Doctors call it "Fried Butter" or "Eczema". Sore and itchy.

Said a distinguished English gentleman, who attempted to cure it, but it spread

with almost incredible rapidity, until the patient was

in despair. We call it "Cicatrica".

It is a solid rash, ugly, painful, blisters, and multitudinous. We had not at night, no peace.

Finally we resorted to try the German Remedy. The effect was simply marvellous. In three days the little child was well and healthy, as though he had never been attacked. In my opinion, your valuable remedies saved his life, and to-day he is a strong, healthy child, perfectly well, no repetition of the disease having ever occurred. G. R. SMITH.

At 111 State St., Providence, R. I.

Dr. F. H. LEAVITT, Atty. Alderman, O.

Queen Victoria's Eyes.

"Very forward" was the epithet

said to have been made by her Majesty

the Queen of England, on the occasion

of the presentation of one of our most

beautiful American girls.

Said a distinguished English gentle-

man a few years ago: "Her Majesty

seems to attend very stately to the

matter in hand, but there is not a tick

New Advertisements. A. C. Landers' Column

The H. W. LADD CO.

GENTLEMEN'S
House Coats

SMOKING JACKETS

At reasonable prices.
London-Made Coats

In a variety of colors.

\$8.00 TO \$10.00.

PLAIN CLOTH JACKETS,

Lined and trimmed with quilted satin.

\$9.00 TO \$16.00.

New Neckwear.

Beautiful Patterns in Puffs, Tucks, and

Pom-Pom Scars.

Pajamas and Night

Robes

Perce Silk, Embroidered Flannel and Madras Cloth. A variety of colors.

SUSPENDERS.

SPECIAL—Gents' plain satin Suspenders for

CONFIDENCE, in bold, extra quality, \$1.00.

The H. W. LADD CO.,

Providence, R. I.

Christmas Goods.

OPENING
DEC. 9.

Fine Imported Chocolate and other Confectionery from Mr. Frank Sobick, supplier to the Imperial Court of Germany.

ALSO—

Imported French and German Baskets

of the finest patterns are to be sold at very low prices.

S. Koschny's,

230 & 232 Thames St.

A

SPECIAL

BARGAIN

IN OUR

OVERCOAT

DEPARTMENT.

MEN'S

BLUE and BROWN

Beaver Overcoats

FOR \$10.00,

Sold elsewhere at \$12.50 and are considered cheap at that, And many.

Other Styles

Ranging from

\$5.00 to \$30.00

We are showing the

Largest and Best Selected

STOCK

OF

OVERCOATS,

ULSTERS,

AND

EEFERS

collected by sweeping up old blankets upon the ground, which are fitly the four corners of the earth. They should be in Newport.

place.—[Fonthill W.

Household Linen

at One-Price

Clothing Co.,

208-Thames St.-208

which happens to

be the case.

The Spider and the Fly

Puzzle

1889.

1890.

BARGAINS!!

—AND—

SMOKING JACKETS

At reasonable prices.

London-Made Coats

In a variety of colors.

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PLAIN CLOTH JACKETS,

Lined and trimmed with quilted satin.

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The H. W. LADD CO.,

Providence, R. I.

New designs and shapes, for

49, 73, 95, 123, 140,

149 per doz.

GOBLETS

For 73, 95, up to 1.73 per

dozen.

PORTSMOUTH.

The "Amateur Troupe" of Ports-

mouth, gave an interesting entertain-

ment, in the school house, in district

No. 4, on Thursday evening, 12th inst.,

consisting of vocal and instrumental

music, and the popular drama "Down

by the Sea." The house was crowded

to its utmost capacity, and some stand-

ing outside. It is the unanimous wish

of the people that they repeat the enter-

tainment in the near future. The troupe

will comply with their request by repeating it at "Oakland Hall" some time in January next closing the even-

ing with a grand social.

Resolutions adopted upon the death

of Deacon Jonathan W. Coggeshall:

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from earth our late brother, Jonathan W. Coggeshall, who for nearly fifty years, has been a worthy member of this church, and whose long and useful life, his talents and honest character, entitled him to this important office and honor to which he has been appointed, with unwavering fidelity to the church and the cause he loved; It is therefore

Resolved, That we sincerely mourn the loss of such a faithful member of our church and society, one whose long experience in church work eminently fitted him for the position he held as a trusted counselor, and who by his integrity and upright Christian life, had won the respect and confidence of all with whom he became acquainted.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere sympathy to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family of the deceased and entered in the record book of the church, and also published in the Newport Mercury.

By order of the "Executive Board of the Christian Church," South Portsmouth, R. I.

ELIJAH A. STEVENS, Committee.

Early last Saturday morning the house situated on the West Main road next north of "Redwood," known as the Albert Cornell house, and occupied by Mr. Matthew Weaver, was destroyed by fire, the origin of which is unknown. Mr. Weaver and family barely escaped. They lost everything, save what little clothing they had time to put on.

There will be a public installation of

offices at "Oakland Lodge" No. 32 L.

O. O. F. on Wednesday evening next, after which an oyster supper will be served, and then a grand social.

Glass Pitchers

19, 34, 49, 73, 95, 123,

149, up.

MEN'S

BLUE and BROWN

Japanese Teapots

19, 34, 49, 73, 95, 123,

149, up.

Overcoat

Department.

Largest and Best Selected

Stock

Overcoats,

Ulsters,

EEfers

FOR \$10.00,

Sold elsewhere at \$12.50 and are

considered cheap at that,

And many.

Other Styles

Ranging from

\$5.00 to \$30.00

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